

# Genetic and nongenetic studies of schizophrenia

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Propositions  
Regarding the dissertation

# GENETIC AND NONGENETIC STUDIES OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

ANTON GRECH

Maastricht, 7th December 2011

1. Endophenotypes for schizophrenia are potentially useful in genetic studies, but we have not yet identified definite structural brain abnormalities that are definite endophenotypes for schizophrenia. *(this thesis)*
2. Cannabis consumption alters the course of schizophrenia. *(this thesis)*
3. Improving the psychosocial situation of the lower classes must be explored further as a potential way of primary prevention of schizophrenia. *(this thesis)*
4. Research on risk factors during pregnancy that have a potential aetiological role in the development of schizophrenia later in life must move from the study on prenatal exposure to influenza to other potential risk factors. *(this thesis)*
5. The particular characteristics of Malta provide good potential for whole population based studies on schizophrenia.
6. Achieving success in the treatment of the negative symptoms of schizophrenia is more difficult than in that of positive symptoms, and research on schizophrenia needs to aim to understand more the nature of these negative symptoms.
7. Research on schizophrenia must not focus only on risk factors but also on protective factors in its development.
8. Patients with the dual diagnosis of schizophrenia and substance abuse are particularly challenging and we should address these particular challenges.
9. Television is a very effective way of communicating in interesting ways facts about mental illness and in reducing the stigma surrounding mental illness.
10. A little by little I can look upon madness as a disease like any other. *(Vincent Van Gogh)*
11. A question that sometimes drives me hazy: am I or are the others crazy? *(Albert Einstein)*